

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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P 311415Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3201

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BREMEN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HAMBURG 1357

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJ: RESIGNATION OF MAYOR PETER SCHULZ OF HAMBURG

REF: HAMBURG 1327

1. SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON OCTOBER 30 SPD FIRST MAYOR PETER SCHULZ INFORMED THE SPD FACTION IN THE HAMBURG STATE ASSEMBLY OF HIS INTENTION TO RESIGN AS MAYOR OF HAMBURG. THE SCHULZ RESIGNATION WILL BE FORMALLY TENDERED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY EARLY NEXT WEEK.

2. SCHULZ, WHOSE POSITION WITHIN THE SPD WAS SERIOUSLY WEAKENED AS A RESULT OF THE SERIOUS LOSSES SUSTAINED BY THE PARTY IN THE MARCH 3, 1974 STATE ELECTIONS, HAS BEEN AN INEPT AND UNPOPULAR TITULAR HEAD OF HIS PARTY HERE. THE IMMEDIATE CAUSES FOR SCHULZ'S DOWNFALL WERE TWOFOLD: (A) HIS IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES WITH THE SPD PARTY LEADERSHIP ON HOW BEST TO RESOLVE
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THE GROWING DEFICITS IN THE CITY BUDGET AND, (B) THE SEVERE

STRAINS WITHIN THE HAMBURG SPD/FDP COALITION GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS THREATENED TO CAUSE AN IRREPARABLE SPLIT OF THE COALITION PARTNERS AND, THEREBY, FORCE THE SPD TO TRY TO GO IT ALONE AS A MINORITY GOVERNMENT WITH THE OCCASIONAL AD HOC SUPPORT OF MODERATE MEMBERS OF THE FDP AND THE CDU.

3. UNTIL THE SUCCESSOR TO SCHULZ IS SELECTED BY THE SPD BOARD, FDP SECOND MAYOR DIETER BIALLAS WILL BE THE ACTING FIRST MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HAMBURG. OSWALD PAULIG, CHAIRMAN OF THE HAMBURG SPD, AND SENATOR OF THE INTERIOR HANS-ULRICH KLOSE HAVE BEEN MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS TO SCHULZ. BOTH BELONG TO THE CONSERVATIVE WING TO THE SPD HERE AND BOTH ARE EXTREMELY FRIENDLY TO THE UNITED STATES.BROGAN

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